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Before the  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

In the Matter of Federal Communications  
Commission Notice of Proposed Rulemaking  
(NPRM) on Media Ownership,

)  
) Docket No. 06-121  
)

Comment of Media Action Marin on behalf of itself and the below listed concerned individuals and organizations.

### A. INTRODUCTION

Media Action Marin MAM is a grassroots media advocacy group in Marin County that 1) works to inform the Marin public about the failure of the mainstream corporate media to provide unbiased and diverse news and information on the important issues of the day, 2) educates viewers about the potential of Community Television to educate and inform community members and to give Marin's diverse cultures a voice in their community, and 3) takes a leadership role in the effort to build and run a successful Marin Community Media Center (MCMC).

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With this background, Media Action Marin Respectfully Submits the following Comment to the Federal Communications Commission in this proceeding:

### Democracy demands diversity of opinion

#### Protect the First Amendment

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(Red Lion Broadcasting Co. V. FCC, 395 U.S. 367)

#### Just a Few Corporations Control The Media

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*"to preserve an uninhibited marketplace of ideas in which the truth will ultimately prevail."*

Democracy demands and requires nothing less.

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|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| ✓ Diane Foster      |                   | 464-0646                                   | ✓                                                              |
| ✓ Warren Orte       | warrenut@aol.com  | 581-5985                                   |                                                                |
| ✓ Lucille Bailey    |                   | 924-1170                                   |                                                                |
| ✓ Robert Stahl      |                   | 388-8196                                   |                                                                |
| ✓ Marshall Morrison |                   | 388-8196                                   |                                                                |
| ✓ Ann Deane         |                   | 383-2696                                   |                                                                |
| ✓ Mary Allison      |                   | 389-8633                                   |                                                                |
| ✓ Betty Portj.      |                   | 380-5012                                   |                                                                |
| ✓ Lynn Nunn         | lunn80@yahoo      | 561-2488                                   | ✓                                                              |
| ✓ Margaret Atwell   |                   | 388-6232                                   |                                                                |
| ✓ Rhonda Garrison   |                   | 381-1039                                   |                                                                |
| ✓ Laura M. Murphy   |                   | 383-7883                                   |                                                                |
| ✓ Mary Cosgrove     |                   |                                            |                                                                |
| ✓ John W. Ruse      | johnw@comcast.net | 381-9082                                   |                                                                |
| ✓ Norma Wilkin      |                   | 388-8616                                   |                                                                |
| ✓ Helrick Fraser    |                   |                                            |                                                                |
| ✓ Harold Dickson    |                   | 389-8348                                   |                                                                |
| ✓ Charles Stator    |                   |                                            |                                                                |
| ✓ Gayne Massey      |                   | 389-5737                                   |                                                                |
| ✓ Patricia C. Jeff  |                   | 381-5953                                   |                                                                |
| ✓ Billy Berne       |                   | 388-2556                                   |                                                                |

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**Social Justice Center of Marin, by \_\_\_\_\_**

**Marin Peace and Justice Coalition, by \_\_\_\_\_**

**Marin County Central Committee, Democratic party \_\_\_\_\_**

**American Civil Liberties Union, Marin chapter, by \_\_\_\_\_**

### **THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUAL RESIDENTS OF MARIN COUNTY**

| <b>Name</b>       | <b>email address</b> |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| ✓ Patricia Marran | macrofem@netzero.net |
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| ✓ Pamela Lyons       | plyons@comcast.net        | 415-878-5137                                |                                                                |
| ✓ Joan Kupfer        |                           | 415-380-8081                                |                                                                |
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| ✓ Michelle Schou     |                           | 259-0103                                    |                                                                |
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| ✓ Jane B. Washburn   | tomvjim@yahoo.com         | 415-383-1178                                | ✓                                                              |
| ✓ Sally Wetherley    | MVSally@yahoo.com         | 383-3121                                    |                                                                |
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Before the  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

FILED/ACCEPTED  
MAY 2 - 2006  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

In the Matter of Federal Communications  
Commission Notice of Proposed Rulemaking  
(NPRM) on Media Ownership,

)  
) Docket No. 06-121  
)

Comment of Media Action Marin on behalf of itself and the below listed concerned individuals and organizations.

**A. INTRODUCTION**

Media Action Marin MAM is a grassroots media advocacy group in Marin County that 1) works to inform the Marin public about the failure of the mainstream corporate media to provide unbiased and diverse news and information on the important issues of the day, 2) educates viewers about the potential of Community Television to educate and inform community members and to give Marin's diverse cultures a voice in their community, and 3) takes a leadership role in the effort to build and run a successful Marin Community Media Center (MCMC).

On June 21, 2006, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) initiated its Quadrennial Regulatory Review of Broadcast Ownership Rules, and is seeking comment through a formal Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM). The following comments on this NPRM are hereby submitted to the FCC today by Media Action Marin.

With this background, Media Action Marin Respectfully Submits the following Comment to the Federal Communications Commission in this proceeding:

**Democracy demands diversity of opinion**

**Protect the First Amendment**

The public has the constitutional right to communicate in an uninhibited marketplace of ideas. The purpose of the First Amendment is to preserve that right. As stated by the United States Supreme Court:

"It is the purpose of the First Amendment to preserve an uninhibited marketplace of ideas in which truth will ultimately prevail rather than to countenance monopolization of that market... It is the right of the public to receive suitable access to social, political, esthetic, moral and other ideas which is crucial here."  
(Red Lion Broadcasting Co. V. FCC, 395 U.S. 367)

**Just a Few Corporations Control The Media**

Over the last twenty years, corporate ownership concentration has led to steep declines in female, minority and local ownership opportunities and the homogenization of content in radio, television and newspapers. In truth, just a few corporations control most of what Americans see, hear and read.

**Ownership Matters**

The main goal of any action being considered by the Federal Communications Commission should be the protection of diversity in media ownership. The FCC should stand firmly in favor of a diverse, equitable and fair media marketplace. Prior to enacting any new rules on media ownership, Media Action Marin and the undersigned

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